

Herdsmen kill 3 in renewed attack in Nasarawa

From **Linus Oota**, Lafia

FEW days after herdsmen hacked down over 50 people in Guma and Loko Local Government Areas of Benue state, they yesterday extended their killing spree to Awe Local Government Area of Nasarawa State where three people were slaughtered.

The attack is coming few days after the state Deputy Governor, Silas Agara, led the Minister of Interior, Abdulrahman Bello Danbazau, deputy Inspector-General of Police in charge of Operations, Habila Joshak, and other security agencies to Awe Local

Government Area of the state.

Interim Management Committee chairman (IMC), Awe Local Government Area, Alhaji Hudu Tafida, disclosed this to newsmen, saying the killings took place in Abagu village in the area. He added that the attack was a spillover of communal clash between Fulani herdsmen and farmers in Benue state.

He further said that six suspected killers were arrested in connection with the killings and are currently assisting the police with useful information. Those arrested include Audu, Dabir, Dachi, David, Biabu and Fidelis.

Tafida expressed shock with the way and manner people are taking laws into their hands. He also warned people to desist from doing so or face the full wrath of the law.

He expressed fears that even though "we are in dry season but the crises, if not tackled properly, could escalate and affect the farming activities in the area. This would cause food shortage in the state because the displaced persons are predominantly farmers.

"I am calling on government at all levels to come to our aid, especially with more security personnel in Awe in order to tackle the security chal-

lenges facing our people. As I am talking to you now, Tiv farmers in Awe Local Government Area are taking refuge in Awe town as their houses were burnt and property looted by the attackers."

... Cut off farmer's wrist in Edo

From **Tony Osauzo**, Benin

HERDSMEN have reportedly cut off the right wrist of a farmer in Igodi quarters, Ojah in Akoko Edo Local Government Area of Edo State. The farmer identified as Arowolo Jerome was said to have been attacked in his farm at the weekend after he allegedly refused to give food to five Fulani herdsmen he met on the way.

A source at the hospital where Jerome was rushed to for medical attention, quoted him (Jerome) as saying that the cutlass was aimed at his neck but he used his hand to block it and it severed his wrist.

Jerome was said to have been rescued by another farmer who saw the attack allegedly incurred the wrath of the herdsmen because some of their cows allegedly died after grazing in his farm.

Scandal rocks hotel in Nasarawa as guest claims his money was stolen

.....You are a liar -Hotel mgt

From **Linus Oota**, Lafia

A hotel located in Keffi, the capital of Nasarawa State is currently enmeshed in a major scandal following allegations by an official of the Judicial Staff Union of Nigeria (JUSUN) in the state, Mr Abugu Joseph, that the security men of the hotel broke his car at the car park and stole the

sum of N200,000.

In a swift reaction in his office in Keffi yesterday, the general manager of the hotel, Yakubu Yusuf, said that there was no evidence to show that the theft took place in his hotel because there were no particles of the broken glasses on the floor.

The manager further said that his investigation within the hotel shows that Abugu's car was actually checked and certified in by the security at the

gate but no sign of broken glass was detected at the time he was driving in. He added that the accuser was out to tarnish the image of the hotel.

Joseph said: "I parked at the car park and walked to the restaurant and made my orders and on returning back after about an hour, I discovered that glass of my car, a Peugeot 406 with registration number NEG 467 AA, was broken and N200,000 kept under the driver's seat was stolen."

PHOTO **Yusuf**